Contract Services Division Consultant Advisory

Consultant Advisory 2021-03

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Updated MDOT Conflict of Interest Guidance Document

Since 2008, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has utilized a Conflict of Interest document for use by both MDOT Project Managers and consulting firms that contract with MDOT. To bring the guidelines up to date and to document the revised process that must be used in determining whether a conflict of interest exists, a revised Conflict of Interest Guidance document has been implemented. The purpose of the guidance is to ensure that consultants have not entered into a contract where there may be a conflict of interest as well as to ensure compliance with 23 CFR, Section 1.33 Conflicts of Interest.

The Conflict of Interest Guideline is broken down into the following sections:

- Department Responsibilities
- Consultant Responsibilities
- Examples of a Conflict of Interest
- Examples of when the Department will determine whether a Conflict of Interest Exists
- Example of when a Conflict of Interest does not exist

Please note that these examples are not intended to be all inclusive.

To disclose a conflict or perceived conflict of interest, a Conflict of Interest Determination Request may happen at any time during the Project/Contracting Process:

- Prior to the submittal of a proposal
- During the Selection of a consultant
- After Selection Approval but prior to contract award
- During the performance of the service

In all cases, the process documented in the Guideline for determining whether a conflict of interest or the appearance of a conflict of interest exists, must be followed.

To review the current <u>Conflict of Interest Guidance Document</u>, please visit MDOT's website.